This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A catalyst containing at least one group VIII element and at least molybdenum and/or tungsten, said elements being present at least in part in the catalyst in the dry state in the form of at least one heteropolyanion with structural formula $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(3-2x)}$, tH_2O (I); $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(4-2x)}$, tH_2O (I'); $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(6-2x)}$, tH_2O (I"); $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(8-2x)}$, tH_2O (I"'); or $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(7-2x)}$, tH_2O (I""); in which M is cobalt and/or nickel and/or iron and/or copper and/or zinc, A is one element from group VIII of the periodic table for formulae I and I' or 1 or 2 elements from group VIII of the periodic table for formulae I", I"' and I"", B is molybdenum and/or tungsten and C is an H^+ ion and/or a $(NR_1R_2R_3R_4)^+$ type ammonium ion, in which R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4, which may be identical or different, correspond either to a hydrogen atom or to an alkyl group, and/or caesium and/or potassium and/or sodium, t is a number between 0 and 15 and x takes a value in the range 0 to 3/2 in (I), a value in the range 0 to 2 in (I'), a value in the range 0 to 3 in (I"), a value in the range 0 to 4 in (I"') and a value in the range 0 to 7/2 in (I"") and in which the number of bonds connecting the group VIII element or elements with the molybdenum and/or tungsten with a length of 3.6 angstroms or less is strictly greater than 2.

2. (Original) A catalyst according to claim 1, in which more than 2 bonds connecting the group VIII element or elements with the molybdenum and/or tungsten have a length of 3.5 angstroms or less in the catalyst in the dry state.

3. (Currently Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1, in which element A is selected from the group ~~constituted by~~ consisting of nickel, cobalt and iron.

4. (Currently Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1 comprising, in the dry state, 0.01% to 100% by weight with respect to the total catalyst weight of at least one heteropolyanion with a structural formula selected from the group ~~constituted by~~ consisting of formulae I, I', I", I"' and I"" .

5. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, comprising at least one porous mineral matrix.

6. (Original) A catalyst according to claim 5, comprising a zeolitic molecular sieve.

7. (Currently Amended) A catalyst according to claim 5 comprising, in the dry state, as a % by weight with respect to the total catalyst weight, 1% to 99.9% of at least one porous mineral matrix, 0.1% to 99% by weight of at least one heteropolyanion having a structural formula selected from the group ~~constituted by~~ consisting of formulae I, I', I", I"' and I"" and 0 to 80% by weight of at least one zeolitic molecular sieve.

8. (Currently Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1, in which the heteropolyanion has a structural formula selected from the group ~~constituted by~~ consisting of $Co_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4Co_3$, $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_{3/2}$, $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6Co_2$, $Co_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4Ni_3$, $Ni_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4Co_4$, $NiMo_6O_{24}H_6Co_2$, $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_2$, $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6Co_{3/2}$, and $NiMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_2$.

9. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, which has undergone a sulphurization treatment.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a catalyst according to claim 1 in~~ In catalytic processes ~~for~~ comprising hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting hydrocarbon feeds, the improvement wherein the catalyst is according to claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A process according to claim 10 ~~in~~ comprising conducting hydrogenation, hydrodenitrogenation, hydrodeoxygenation, hydrodearomatization, hydrodesulphurization, hydrodemetallization, hydroisomerization, hydrodealkylation or dehydrogenation reactions.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a catalyst according to claim 1 in~~ In a catalytic process comprising conducting hydrocracking of hydrocarbon feeds, the improvement wherein the catalyst is according to claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A process according to claim 10, in which said hydrocarbon feeds contain at least one heteroatom.

14. (New) A catalyst according to claim 8, wherein the heteropolyanion is $Co_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4Co_3$, $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_{3/2}$, and $NiMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_2$.